(ii) Projects in whose case appraisal had been started by the financial institutions before 6.1.2006 on the basis of appropriate evidence of process of procurement of power by any utility. Provided that final PPA should be filed before the Appropriate Commission by 30.9.2006.

(iii) Hydro projects where the Detailed Project Report (DPR) had been submitted to CEA/CWC for concurrence and where appropriate evidence of process of procurement of power by any utility exists before 6.1.2006. Provided that final PPA should be filed before the Appropriate Commission by 30.9.2006.

Government of Tamil Nadu made a request to the Ministry of Power to extend the cut-off date of 30.9.2006. The Government of Tamil Nadu was informed in September, 2006 that the outer time frame had already been provided in the aforementioned letter dated 28.3.2006 of the Ministry in view of provisions of Tariff Policy.

Debt burden of Dabhol Power Project

3449. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the Dabhol Power Project's current debt burden;

(b) what kind of support have been provided so far by the Central Government in view of the Dabhol Power Projects debt burden so that power generation may be increased by reducing its costs of power generation; and

(c) how much power is likely to be generated in the next three months to one year, and at what cost from the Dabhol Power Plant?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) Ratnagiri Gas & Power Private Ltd. (RGPPL) have informed that Dabhol Power Project's debt burden, as on 31.03.2007 is Rs.7537 Crores -as per their books of accounts.

(b) Government of India (Gol) has provided several fiscal incentives to RGPPL to improve the project viability which includes Mega project statUs to the integrated project (including the LNG facility) which has

reduced the overall project cost. Besides, Government has granted CD/ CVD exemption en import of fuel (Naphtha/gas) for the plant for 5 years to soften the impact of the cost of generation and increase project viability. The benefits under Section 80-IAof Income Tax Act have also been made available to RGPPL

(c) The Commercial operation of the power blocks shall commence on availability of R-LNG. In case 1.5 MMTPRA R-LNG, currently tied up by Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas, is made available by 2nd week of June 2007, two power blocks (1480 MW) can be operated commercially from July 07 and August' 07 respectively. The third power block (670 MW) is expected to be ready for Commercial operation by January, 2008 subject to availability of additional 0.6 MMTPA of R-LNG.

The Power tariff based on current price of R-LNG (Rs. 263/MMBTU) at burner tip) based on a USD rate of Rs. 42 is expected to be about Rs. 3.00 per kwh.

Rural Electrification Programme

3450. SHRI DARA SINGH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's rural electrification programme aim to electrify all villages by the year 2010;

(b) the number of villages/rural habitation targeted to be electrified under Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana for the year 2006-07 and the actual number of villages/rural habitation electrified, so far, State-wise; and

(c) the funds allocated for rural electrification projects during the year 2007-08 in comparison to 2006-07?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) Government of India in April, 2005 introduced "Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY), a scheme of Rural Electricity Infrastructure and Household Electrification" with the aim of electrifying all the balance un-electrified villages (except remote villages to be covered by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy) by the year 2009.